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THIS WEEK @ NASA



1
00:00:00,480 --> 00:00:03,920
Presidential congratulations for the Mars Perseverance rover team ...

2
00:00:03,920 --> 00:00:06,640
The rover makes its first drive on the Red Planet ...

3
00:00:06,640 --> 00:00:10,320
And a pair of spacewalks outside the space station ... a few of the

4
00:00:10,320 --> 00:00:12,480
stories to tell you about – This Week at NASA!

5
00:00:13,920 --> 00:00:18,880
On March 4, President Joe Biden made a congratulatory call to our Jet Propulsion

6
00:00:18,880 --> 00:00:23,360
Laboratory's Center Director, Mike Watkins and the entire Mars 2020

7
00:00:23,360 --> 00:00:29,280
team for the successful Feb. 18 landing on the Red Planet of our Perseverance rover.

8
00:00:29,280 --> 00:00:35,840
"You guys did it. You guys gave a sense of "America is back." It's -- it's

9
00:00:35,840 --> 00:00:41,200
astounding what you did. You believed in science, you believed in hard work,

10
00:00:41,200 --> 00:00:45,760
and you believed there wasn't a darn thing you couldn't do if you put your minds together."

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00:00:46,320 --> 00:00:51,600

Perseverance also made its first drive on Mars\h
March 4 – a trek across the Martian landscape\h\h

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00:00:51,600 --> 00:00:57,840

that covered about 21.3 feet, and which also\h
served as a mobility test. Once the rover begins\h\h

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00:00:57,840 --> 00:01:04,240

pursuing its science goals, it is expected to\h
clock drives of 665 feet or more. Meanwhile,\h\h

14

00:01:04,240 --> 00:01:10,080

mission team scientists have informally named the\h
rover's landing site "Octavia E. Butler Landing,"\h\h

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00:01:10,080 --> 00:01:13,840

in honor of the groundbreaking author\h
and Pasadena, California native,\h\h

16

00:01:13,840 --> 00:01:19,120

who was the first African American woman to\h
win both the Hugo Award and Nebula Award,\h\h

17

00:01:19,120 --> 00:01:22,960

and was the first science fiction writer\h
honored with a MacArthur Fellowship.

18

00:01:24,240 --> 00:01:29,120

Astronauts conducted a pair of spacewalks outside\h
the International Space Station during the week.\h\h

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00:01:29,120 --> 00:01:34,880

On Feb. 28 our Kate Rubins and Victor\h
Glover completed a 7-hour-4-minute spacewalk\h\h

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00:01:34,880 --> 00:01:40,160

to begin installing modification kits needed\h
for solar array upgrades later this year.\h\h

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00:01:40,160 --> 00:01:44,560

Once installed, the new solar arrays will
increase the station's total available power.

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00:01:44,560 --> 00:01:49,280

Five days later, Rubins and Japan's Soichi
Noguchi ventured outside to complete the

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00:01:49,280 --> 00:01:53,200

installation of the modification
kits and to tackle additional work,

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00:01:53,200 --> 00:01:56,560

including the venting of ammonia from
the station's thermal control system.

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00:01:57,760 --> 00:02:02,080

NASA's SpaceX Crew-2 mission, targeted
for launch no earlier than mid-April,

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00:02:02,080 --> 00:02:07,040

will be the second crew rotation flight of
a U.S. commercial spacecraft with astronauts

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00:02:07,040 --> 00:02:12,320

to the space station. The Crew-2 astronauts,
Shane Kimbrough and Megan McArthur of NASA,

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00:02:12,320 --> 00:02:17,760

Akihiko Hoshide of the Japan Aerospace
Exploration Agency, and European Space Agency

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00:02:17,760 --> 00:02:23,120

astronaut Thomas Pesquet, talked about the mission
during a virtual Crew News Conference on March 1.

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00:02:23,120 --> 00:02:26,240

"I'm looking forward to flying with this
great crew that you see on the screen."

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00:02:26,960 --> 00:02:30,720

It's been the first time in over
20 years that a crew from NASA,

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00:02:30,720 --> 00:02:34,400

ESA, and JAXA have flown together so,
that's pretty cool too. We're looking

33

00:02:34,400 --> 00:02:37,280

forward to spending several months
on the International Space Station."

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00:02:38,480 --> 00:02:42,480

Our James Webb Space Telescope
passed two important milestone tests

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00:02:42,480 --> 00:02:47,760

in February – moving the observatory a step
closer to being ready for launch in October.

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00:02:47,760 --> 00:02:51,680

Engineers confirmed Webb's internal
electronics are working as intended,

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00:02:51,680 --> 00:02:56,640

and that the spacecraft and its four scientific
instruments can send and receive data through the

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00:02:56,640 --> 00:03:01,680

same network they will use in space. Webb will
solve mysteries in our solar system, look to

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00:03:01,680 --> 00:03:07,200

distant worlds around other stars, and investigate
the origins of our universe and our place in it.

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00:03:08,160 --> 00:03:13,440

In celebration of Women's History Month, we have
updated our annual feature recognizing the most

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00:03:13,440 --> 00:03:17,760

recent women who have conducted science aboard the International Space Station.

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00:03:17,760 --> 00:03:20,640

It's available online at go.nasa.gov/womeninspace.

43

00:03:22,480 --> 00:03:28,240

The women featured are among the 65 women overall, as of March 2021, who have flown

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00:03:28,240 --> 00:03:33,280

in space as cosmonauts, astronauts, payload specialists, and space station participants.

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00:03:34,400 --> 00:03:38,960

The next phase of testing in our Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) National Campaign this month,

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00:03:38,960 --> 00:03:45,200

uses a helicopter, as a stand-in advanced air mobility vehicle, flying various maneuvers at our

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00:03:45,200 --> 00:03:50,400

Armstrong Flight Research Center in California. NASA and the Federal Aviation Administration

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00:03:50,400 --> 00:03:54,800

are working together to create a new air transportation system that could support

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00:03:54,800 --> 00:04:01,040

passenger and cargo transportation in urban, suburban, rural, and regional environments. Data

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00:04:01,040 --> 00:04:05,760

from these flights will be used to help develop operational procedures for that new system.